to the ceramic honeycomb formed body 51 from above, so that the cells 52 are filled with the slurry 55 through the holes 53 of the mask 54. At the other end face of the ceramic honeycomb formed body 51, predetermined cells 52 are filled with the slurry 55 in the same manner. In this case, a mask having a reverse hole pattern such that holes are arranged at portions where no holes 53 of the mask 54 are arranged is used so as to obtain a construction such that the cells 52 are plugged alternately at both end faces of the ceramic honeycomb structural body. According to the processes mentioned above, as shown in Fig. 15c by cross section, it is possible to obtain the ceramic honeycomb formed body 51 having a construction such that the cells 2 are plugged alternately at its both end faces.

Page 7, line 25 to Page 8, line 9, cancel and replace with the following:

In this method, a setter 21 is formed simultaneously when the ceramic honeycomb formed body 1 is formed and is utilized as the suction jig. A mask 23 having a construction such that holes 22 are arranged in a checkered pattern at positions

corresponding to the cells to be plugged is adhered to an upper face of the setter 21. The mask 23 may be formed by rubber, resin, paper and so on. The setter 21 is set to the vacuum apparatus 4 in such a manner that the surface, to which the mask 23 is adhered, is positioned upward. Then, the setter 21 approaches to the tray 5 in which the paraffin balls 3 are stored, and the suction apparatus 4 starts to work. As a result, the paraffin balls 3 are sucked in a checkered pattern on an under face of the setter 21. Then, the setter 21 is set on the end face of the ceramic honeycomb formed body 1 positioned by for example an image processing apparatus, and the vacuum apparatus 4 is stopped. In this manner, the paraffin balls 3 are aligned to the end face of the ceramic honeycomb formed body 1. Then, the same aligning operations are performed for the other end face by utilizing the setter 21, to which another mask 23 is adhered, so that thee paraffin balls 3 can be aligned at the both end faces.

Page 8, lines 12 to 28, cancel and replace with the following:

In this method, the ceramic honeycomb formed body 1, in which the paraffin balls 3 are filled to the cells 2 at one end face, is utilized as the suction jig for filling the paraffin balls 3 to a next ceramic honeycomb formed body 1. At first, as shown in Fig. 7a, a ceramic honeycomb formed body 1-1, to which the mask 23 is adhered, is utilized for the first ceramic honeycomb formed body 1. Then, the paraffin balls 3 are aligned to the predetermined cells 2 at the end face of a next ceramic honeycomb formed body 1-2 in the same manner as that of the embodiment mentioned above except that the ceramic honeycomb formed body 1-1 is utilized as the setter 21 (Fig. 7b). After that, the paraffin balls 3 are aligned to the predetermined cells 2 at the end face of a further next ceramic honeycomb formed body 1-3 (Fig. 7d) in the same manner as that of the embodiment mentioned above except that the ceramic honeycomb formed body 1-2, in which the paraffin balls 3 are aligned at one end face, is utilized as the setter 21 (Fig. 7c). The above operations are repeated, so that the paraffin balls 3 are aligned at the both end faces.

Page 10, line 25 to Page 11, line 3, cancel and replace with the following:

Then, as shown in Fig. 13a, a mask 44 utilizing a liquid crystal is set to the end face of the ceramic honeycomb formed body 1 to which the cell positions are recognized, and the mask 44 is varied in a checkered pattern in such a manner that a light is introduced only to the cells to be opened on the basis of the position data of all the cells 2 obtained by an image processing. Then, as shown in Fig. 13b, a light emanating from a light source 45 is introduced to the end face of the ceramic honeycomb formed body 1 through the mask 44. By introducing a light through the cells 2, the photo-curing resin existing at the cells 2, through which a light is transmitted, is hardened. Moreover, as shown in Fig. 13c, the end face of the ceramic honeycomb formed body 1 is plugged by the hardened resin.